

with loving honesty and helped him never lose sight of the realities and obligations of being a man and father. He also taught his children about politics, but would never let the discussions get hotter than what was necessary to properly forge and hone their positions.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise and remember the veteran, and above all a husband, father and grandfather.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN
THOMAS WEEMES

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of John Thomas Weemes, a man who was an active member of the Los Angeles community. Mr. Weemes was born April 2, 1925 in Los Angeles, California to Annie Wardell Brown and Albert Thomas Weemes. Affectionately known as "Johnny," he was the fifth of six children. John was educated in the Los Angeles Unified School District and attended 20th Street Elementary School, Lafayette Junior High School, and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1943. That same year, John was drafted into the United States Army and served our country proudly from 1943–1946 during World War II. After his tour of duty, John enrolled in California State College and earned his Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees. Throughout his career, John worked as an elementary school teacher, pupil service and attendance counselor, and administrator. He was also a member of the Associated Administrators of Los Angeles. After retiring in 1987, John continued to work part-time for the District.

John was baptized and engaged in fellowship at Ward A.M.E. church in Los Angeles, California. On July 8, 1951, John was united in holy matrimony with Lenicia Boggs, who preceded him in death. To this union, Stephen John Weemes was born. On July 31, 1981, John united in holy matrimony to Toni Anthony Brown, thanks to the late Clayton Moore for playing Cupid.

John was a kind, generous, loving, warm-hearted, and cordial gentleman. With his outgoing and infectious personality, John knew no strangers. He enjoyed spending time with family, friends, and colleagues. Some of his favorite leisure activities were golfing, reading, and watching all sports on television. John also loved to travel, and cruising was his and Toni's favorite mode of transportation. John took pleasure in walking and playing with his beloved dogs; first "Princess Lui," and currently "Lexie," a.k.a. "Pooh."

John Thomas Weemes passed away on August 31, 2011. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings Emma Bess, Annie, Albert, and Carrie. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Toni A. Weemes (Ruby), son Stephen John Weemes, daughter-in-law Sheyrl Nickles-Weemes, sister Evelyne Brown, Lexie, and a host of relatives and friends.

I ask all members to join me in a moment of silence to honor the memory of the late John Thomas Weemes.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL
WARFARE OPERATOR HEATH MI-
CHAEL ROBINSON

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senior Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Heath Michael Robinson who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Senior Chief Robinson was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Senior Chief Robinson was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including four Bronze Star Medals with Valor, including one for extraordinary heroism, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Senior Chief Robinson is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Senior Chief Robinson an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Senior Chief Robinson's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF MR. LE NGUYEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Le Nguyen, who is celebrating 30 years of service to the City of Cleveland.

After graduating high school in 1974, Mr. Nguyen joined the South Vietnam Air Force. Following North Vietnam's invasion on April 30, 1975, he left South Vietnam and came to the United States. Just several years later, Mr. Nguyen became the Asian Liaison for the Community Relations Board/City of Cleveland.

Throughout his long career as the Asian Liaison, Mr. Nguyen has worked to promote understanding and cooperation amongst racially and culturally diverse groups within the Cleveland community. He played a vital role in some of the Community Relations Board's most successful projects, including a fundraiser for the Vietnamese Buddhist Association of Cleveland's Vien Quang Temple and the coordination of Cleveland's first Asian American Resource Directory. Mr. Nguyen has also served as the event chair for the Asian Pacific American Heritage Day Celebration since 2008.

Because of his dedication and hard work, Mr. Nguyen has received many awards over the past 30 years. In 1994 he was selected as the Community Relations Board's employee of the month and received a key to the City of Cleveland. He is also the recipient of a Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Leadership in the Asian American Community from the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, and has been recognized by the American Nationalities Movement and the Korean American Association of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Le Nguyen as he celebrates 30 years of service as the Asian Liaison for the Community Relations Board/City of Cleveland.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the special occasion of the centennial celebration of St. John's Hospital. For 100 years, this community hospital has provided quality health care to residents in the Saint Paul—Minneapolis Metropolitan Area.

In 1911, when it first opened its doors in Saint Paul's Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, St. John's German Lutheran Hospital was a 25-bed facility. A new 65-bed fireproof hospital was built in 1914 on the site of the current Metropolitan State University in Saint Paul. During the influenza epidemic of 1918, St. John's Hospital was turned over to the City of Saint Paul to care for charity patients. In just one month, St. John's Hospital treated nearly 400 flu patients. In a turn of events, in 1933, due to a low patient load, the hospital was forced to close some floors and hospital staff took vacations without pay and a 10 percent salary reduction.

After weathering difficult times, in the 1950s St. John's Hospital underwent an expansion to 165 beds, becoming one of the first hospitals in the nation to create an Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and was recognized for its "Progressive Patient Care." St. John's Hospital constructed a second facility in 1985 in Maplewood at its current location. St. John's Hospital joined the newly-created HealthEast Care System in 1986, along with Bethesda and St. Joseph's Hospitals. After 75 years, in 1987, St. John's Hospital closed its hospital on Saint Paul's East Side.

St. John's Hospital has implemented many innovations during the past decade. In 2005, St. John's Hospital was the first community hospital in the Twin Cities to offer the daVinci Surgical System—a robotic surgical system used to treat prostate cancer. In addition, St. John's Hospital was the first hospital in Minnesota to utilize digital mammography and one of the first hospitals in the state to provide cutting-edge artificial disc surgery for patients experiencing lower back pain.

Today St. John's is an award-winning hospital and with more than 1500 employees, one of the largest job providers in the East Metro Area. On an annual basis, it treats more than 41,000 patients in the emergency department, delivers more than 3,000 babies and performs